CLAIMS

1. An aperture edging member for forming a substantially smooth aperture within a surface member, said edging member being formed as a unitary member of complementary shape to surround the entire periphery of an orifice formed in said surface member, the aperture edging member including:

a substantially planar rim having inner and outer edges and which is perforated, segmented or castellated, and which is adapted to be attached over a portion of said surface member about said orifice formed in said surface member;

a lip extending outwards from said inner edge of said rim to a lip extremity such that, following installation, a layer of settable material is adapted to be applied over said rim from the lip extremity at least to said outer edge of the rim to form a surface finish over said rim which is substantially flush with the remainder of the surface member not covered by said rim, and

a flange extending orthogonally from the inner edge of the rim in the opposite direction from said lip so as to fit within said orifice and thereby define an inner surface of said orifice which extends substantially orthogonally to said surface finish.

2. An aperture edging member as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flange is substantially annularly shaped so as to fit within a substantially circular orifice.

3. An aperture edging member as claimed in claim 1, wherein said surface member is formed of plasterboard, plaster or render, and said settable material includes plaster, render or other settable filler material.

4. A support member for supporting a fitting in an orifice provided within a surface member, said support member being formed as a unitary member of complementary shape to surround the entire periphery of an orifice formed in said surface member, the support member including:

a substantially planar rim having inner and outer edges and which is perforated, segmented or castellated, and which is adapted to be attached over a portion of said surface member about said orifice formed in said surface member;

a lip extending outwards from said inner edge of said rim to a lip extremity such that, following installation, a layer of settable material is applied over said rim from said lip extremity at least to said outer edge of the rim to form a surface finish over said rim which is flush with the remainder of the surface member not covered by said rim, and

a flange extending orthogonally from said inner edge of the rim in the opposite direction from said lip so as to fit within said orifice and thereby define an inner surface of said orifice which extends substantially orthogonally to said surface finish, said flange incorporating means for attachment of said fitting.

5. A support member as claimed in claim 4, wherein said flange is substantially annularly shaped to fit within a substantially circularly shaped orifice.

6. A support member as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein said surface member is a plasterboard, plaster or rendered surface.

7. A support member as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein said settable material includes plaster, render or other filler material.

8. A support member as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein said fitting is a light fitting, including a downlight fitting.

9. A support member as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein said fitting is an air conditioning or heating or other vent, a speaker, a sprinkler, or any other fitting normally attached to a ceiling or wall surface.

10. A support member as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein said support member is formed of sheet metal material.

11. A support member as claimed in claim 4 or 5, wherein said support member is formed of plastics material.

12. A lighting device adapted to be provided within an orifice of a surface member, including a support member being formed as a unitary member of complementary shape to surround the entire periphery of an orifice formed in said surface member, said device including:

a substantially planar rim having inner and outer edges and adapted to be attached over a portion of said surface member about said orifice formed in said surface member, the rim being perforated, segmented or castellated;

a lip extending outwards from said inner edge of said rim to a lip extremity, such that, following installation, a layer of settable material is provided over said rim from said lip extremity at least to said outer edge of the rim to form a surface finish over said rim which is flush with the remainder of the surface member not covered by said rim, and

a flange extending substantially orthogonally from said inner edge in a direction opposite that of said lip so as to fit substantially within said orifice and thereby define an inner surface of said orifice which extends substantially orthogonally to said surface finish,

said device also including lamp means adapted to be releasably attached to attachment means associated with said flange in a manner such that said lamp means is substantially aligned with said orifice.

13. A lighting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein said device includes a lamp housing including a flange having a central aperture to receive said lamp means, wherein said lamp housing is provided with engagement means to engage with said attachment means of said support member.

14. A lighting device as claimed in claim 13, wherein said engagement means is embodied as at least two biased arms adapted to extend over and engage with the edge of said flange.

15. A lighting device as claimed in claim 13 or 14, wherein said support member is attached to said surface member by biased retaining means adapted to engage with said surface member.

16. A lighting device as claimed in claim 15, wherein said biased retaining means is formed with a protruding portion adapted to provide support from and clamp over a rear surface of said surface member.

17. A lighting device adapted to be provided within an orifice of a surface member, said device being formed as a unitary member of complementary shape to surround the entire periphery of an orifice formed in said surface member, the lighting device including:

a substantially planar rim having inner and outer edges and adapted to be attached over a portion of said surface member about said orifice formed in said surface member, the rim being perforated, segmented or castellated;

a lip portion extending outwards from said inner edge of said rim to a lip extremity, such that, following installation, a layer of settable material is provided over said rim from said lip extremity at least to said outer edge of the rim to form a surface finish over said rim which is substantially flush with the remainder of the surface member not covered by said rim; and

a flange extending orthogonally from said inner edge in a direction opposite that of the lip so as to fit substantially within said orifice and thereby define an inner surface of said orifice which extends substantially orthogonally to said surface finish, and

a lamp housing affixed thereto in a manner such that when installed it is recessed within said orifice relative to said surface member.

18. A lighting device as claimed in claim 17, wherein said device is provided with support means to at least partly support said device in its desired position during and after installation within said orifice.

19. A lighting device as claimed in claim 17 or 18, wherein said support means is embodied as biased clip means adapted to engage with an opposed side of said surface member.

20. A method of forming an aperture in a surface member, including the steps of:

cutting an orifice in said surface member;

inserting and attaching a continuously formed aperture member within said orifice, said aperture member including

a substantially planar rim having inner and outer edges and which is perforated, segmented or castellated, and which is adapted to be attached over a portion of said surface member about said orifice formed in said surface member;

a lip extending outwards from said inner edge of said rim to a lip extremity such that, following installation, a layer of settable material is adapted to be ap-

plied over said rim from said lip extremity at least to said outer edge of the rim to form a surface finish over said rim which is flush with the remainder of the surface member not covered by said rim, and

a flange extending substantially orthogonally from said inner edge of the rim in a direction opposite that of said lip so as to fit within said orifice and thereby define an inner surface of said orifice which extends substantially orthogonally to said surface finish, and

applying a layer of settable material over said rim from said lip extremity at least to the outer edge of said rim.

21. A method of forming an aperture in a surface member as claimed in claim 20, wherein said orifice is formed of any desired shape, and wherein a said flange of corresponding shape is inserted within said orifice.

22. A method of forming an aperture in a surface member as claimed in claim 20, wherein said orifice is of substantially circular shape, and wherein a said flange of substantially annular shape is provided within said orifice.

23. A method of forming an aperture in a surface member as claimed in any one of claims 20 to 22, wherein said surface member is plasterboard, plaster or a rendered surface, and wherein said settable material includes plaster, render or other filler material.

24. A method of installing a recessed fitting in a surface member, including the steps of:

cutting an orifice in said surface member;

inserting and attaching a support member in said orifice, said support member being formed as a unitary member of complementary shape to surround the entire periphery of an orifice formed in said surface member, the support member including:

a substantially planar rim having inner and outer edges and which is perforated, segmented or castellated, and which is adapted to be attached over a portion of said surface member about said orifice formed in said surface member;

a lip extending outwards from said inner edge of said rim to a lip extremity such that, following installation, a layer of settable material is applied over said rim from said lip extremity at least to said outer edge of the rim to form a surface finish over said rim which is of substantially flush appearance to the remainder of the surface member not covered by said rim, and

a flange extending substantially orthogonally from said inner edge of the rim in a direction opposite that of the lip so as to fit within said orifice and thereby define an inner surface of said orifice which extends substantially orthogonally to said surface finish, said flange incorporating means for attachment of said fitting;

providing a layer of settable material over said rim from said lip extremity beyond said outer edge of the rim, and

attaching said fitting to said attachment means of said flange.

25. A method of installing a recessed fitting in a surface member as claimed in claim 24, wherein said orifice is formed of any desired shape, and wherein a said flange of corresponding shape is inserted within said orifice.

26. A method of installing a recessed fitting in a surface member as claimed in claim 24, wherein said orifice is of substantially circular shape, and wherein a said flange of substantially annular shape is provided within said orifice.

27. A method of installing a recessed fitting in a surface member as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 26, wherein said surface member is plasterboard, plaster or a rendered surface, and wherein said settable material includes plaster, render or other fillable material.

28. A method of installing a recessed fitting in a surface member as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 26, characterised in that said fitting is a light fitting.

29. A method of installing a recessed fitting in a surface member as claimed in any one of claims 24 to 26, characterised in that said fitting is an air conditioning, heating or other vent, a speaker, a sprinkler, or any other fitting normally installed in a ceiling or wall surface.